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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/929,447	08/14/2001	Geoffrey Manning	534334-013	8796

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EXAMINER

SELF, SHELLEY M

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3725

DATE MAILED: 10/02/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/929,447

Applicant(s)

MANNING, GEOFFREY

Examiner

Shelley Self

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 14 August 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-25 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-25 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 14 August 2001 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 3. 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Drawings

The drawings are objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(4) because reference character "12" has been used to designate both worktop, work surface (pg. 6, line 2) and bench top (pg. 9, line 13). A proposed drawing correction or corrected drawings are required in reply to the Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Specification

The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities:

Change "13" to -13A- (pg. 5, line 12)

Change "plane 31" to -planer 31- (pg. 6, line)

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

Claim 19 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as containing subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention.

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Neither the specification nor the drawings clearly enable one having ordinary skill in the art to make or use the electrical coupling means having voltage and current sensitive devices.

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claims 7 and 25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. With regard to claims 7 and 25, the claims are indefinite because they lack antecedent basis for the terms "reference mark" (clm. 7) and "tool attachment assembly" (clm. 25) in the specification.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1, 2, 17, 18 and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Collins (UK 2,144,365). Collins discloses a transportable workbench comprising a plurality of locations (A, B, D, E) having an aperture for passage of a tool, an adjustable stop (figs. 1, 2) and a work surface.

With regard to claims 17 and 18, Collins discloses an electrical coupling means (switch means) for connection of a power tool to a source of electrical power (pg. 2, lines 13-18).

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With regard to claim 19, as best as can be understood Collins an electrical coupling means for connection of a power tool to a source of electrical power (pg. 2, lines 13-18).

Claims 22, 23 and 24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Murphy (4,335,765). With regard to claims 22 and 23, Murphy discloses a transportable workbench (fig. 1) comprising a plurality of location defining apertures/opening (86, 64, 142) for passage of a power tool to provide first and second work stations being juxtaposed for machining a work piece sequentially, with a first machining stage at a first work station and a second machining stage at a second work station; wherein at least two of said locations for power cutting defining a single cutting line (86, 142; fig. 1).

With regard to claim 24, Murphy discloses a plurality of locations for passage of a power tool, defining apertures/opening (86, 64, 142), a template (80) for positioning the power tools and a hand-operated clamping arrangement (col. 4, lines 56-60).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 3-6, 8, 9, 14, 20 and 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Collins (UK 2,144,365) in view of Murphy (4,335,765). With regard to claims 3 and 4, Collins discloses a work surface having an edge and an elongate stop movable perpendicularly to

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the edge. Collins does not disclose the stop to be clampable with respect to the work surface. Murphy discloses a transportable multipurpose table wherein a work stop/fence elongate and movable perpendicularly to the worktable edge. Murphy teaches the use of a clamping means (col. 5; lines 11-37) to adhere the fence to the worktable. Murphy teaches the use of a clamping means for removal and re-placement of the stop/fence. It would have been obvious at the time of the invention to one having ordinary skill in the art to replace Collins stop and attachment means with a clamping means as that of Murphy so as to allow removal and replacement of the stop as taught by Murphy.

With regard to claim 5, Collins discloses at least two locations for mounting power tools. Collins does not disclose cutting tools defining a single cutting line. Murphy teaches mounting power tools (86, 142) in a single cutting line having workstations side by side. It would have been obvious at the time of the invention to one having ordinary skill in the art to align Collins apertures for mounting power tools so as to align the cutting operation of the various tools as taught by Murphy.

With regard to claim 6, Collins discloses a cutting line(s) parallel to a work surface edge (fig. 1).

With regard to claim 8, Collins discloses a power tool combination table wherein a power saw is used (pg. 1).

With regard to claim 9, Collins discloses a power tool combination table wherein a router is used (pg. 1).

With regard to claim 14, Collins does not disclose a template for positioning a power tool and a clamping arrangement for clamping the power tool to the workbench. Murphy teaches the

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use of a plate (80) and clamping arrangement L (92) to position and adhere (i.e. clamp) a power tool to the workbench. Because both references are from a similar art and deal with a similar problem (i.e. adhering a power tool to a workbench) it would have been obvious at the time of the invention to one having ordinary skill in the art to provide Collins aperture passage(s) with a plate and clamping means so as to position and adhere a power tool to the work bench as taught by Murphy.

With regard to claim 20, Collins does not disclose locations workstations being juxtaposed for machining a work piece sequentially with a first stage at a first workstation and a second stage at a second workstation. Murphy teaches the use of workstations juxtaposed (86, 64, 142) for machining a work piece sequentially (fig. 1). It would have been obvious at the time of the invention to one having ordinary skill in the art to align the workstations of Collins so as to sequentially machine a work piece as taught by Murphy.

With regard to claim 21, Collins discloses a stop arrange to regulate positioning of a work piece. Collins does not disclose a stop for transferring a work piece between first and second workstations. Murphy teaches the use of a stop (104) to regulate positioning of a work piece and the transferring of a work piece from a first (86) to a second work station (64)[Murphy discloses that a miter saw may be placed in 64 for machining a work piece, it is obvious that a work piece aligned and regulated by 104 at a first work station 86 would be transferred to the next work station, 64]. Because both references are from a similar art and deal with a similar problem (i.e. completing various machining operations on a work piece at various work stations of a work bench) it would have been obvious at the time of the invention to one having ordinary skill in the art to use Collins work stop as a transferring means as taught by Murphy.

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Claim 10 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Collins (UK 2,144,365) in view of Decker (4,114,665). Collins does not disclose an upstanding plate projection perpendicularly from the work surface. Decker teaches the use of an upstanding plate (16, 17) projecting perpendicularly from the work surface. Decker teaches the use of the upstanding plate as a wall or fence for guiding material. It would have been obvious at the time of the invention to one having ordinary skill in the art to provide Collins with an upstanding plate so as to guide material during operation as taught by Decker.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 11-13, 15, 16 and 25 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims and if the 35 U.S.C. 112 rejection were overcome.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Shelley Self whose telephone number is (703) 305-5299. The examiner can normally be reached Mon-Fri from 8:30am to 5:00pm. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's Supervisor, Allen Ostrager can be reached at (703) 308-3136. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 305-3579 for regular and After Final communications.

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Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-1148.

SSelf
September 11, 2002



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